

THE SPOTLight

News From Councilmember Sherri Lightner

City of San Diego, District One

November 4, 2011

Council Adopts Sherri's Water Policy

After more than a year in the making, the City Council unanimously approved Sherri's Comprehensive Water Policy on Oct. 17.

The policy, which will serve as a blueprint for addressing San Diego's long-term water needs, was praised by Council colleagues as well as business and environmental groups.

The Comprehensive Water Policy is just the first step. Sherri now plans to focus on creating an action plan to implement the policy's priorities. To help craft the action plan, Sherri has proposed a Sustainable Water Supply Task Force to be created.



Sherri announcing her Comprehensive Water Policy at the North City Water Reclamation Plant.

A framework for the Task Force's work and membership will be coming before the Council's Natural Resources and Culture Committee early next year. To find out more about this issue, visit Sherri's [website](#).

Marketing Partnerships Generate Big Savings for City

The City Council recently approved two marketing partnerships with Toyota and Sprint.

The Toyota deal will provide 34 new vehicles for San Diego Lifeguards for up to four years and will save the City as much as \$245,000 that it would have otherwise spent on buying new vehicles.



Lifeguards will participate in water safety days and other promotional events hosted by Toyota.

Sprint will pay \$100,000 a year for the next two years (with options to renew the contract) to be known as San Diego's official wireless carrier.

"We will continue to find innovative ways to provide needed services and equipment in these difficult economic times," Sherri said.

Workforce Housing: A Key to Economic Growth

Affordable workforce housing is vital to San Diego's future. The high cost of housing makes it hard to recruit and retain new companies and new employees.

Because workforce housing is critical to the health of San Diego's economy, Sherri has made this issue a focus of the Land Use & Housing Committee that she chairs.

On Oct. 26, the Land Use & Housing Committee spent much of its meeting focusing on every aspect of the issue: from sustainable funding sources to financing plans to building incentives.



The key is finding ways to build workforce housing while minimizing its cost.

Sherri is committed to working with all stakeholders to come up with solutions to this complex problem.

"The problem is too big to piecemeal together a short-term fix," Sherri said. "We need a comprehensive plan to build the workforce housing we need."

A final report on funding options will be presented at the Land Use & Housing meeting on Nov. 16. Sherri and Councilmember David Alvarez will bring recommendations to the full Council early next year.

Update: Swift Response to Sinkhole in University City

On Oct. 6, a large sinkhole caused by a failed storm drain opened on Campus Point Drive in University City.

The street serves as the main access to offices of such companies as Qualcomm, SAIC and Scripps Health.

Sherri's office worked closely with

City staff and representatives from the nearby companies to coordinate traffic issues as well as speed up the street's repair.

Currently, all lanes have re-opened to traffic, and final testing is occurring on reconnected water lines. This work is expected to be completed by the second week of November.



City workers survey the damage from the sinkhole.

Working for You in the Community

Helping constituents get potholes filled, streetlights fixed and other neighborhood repairs is one of Sherri's top priorities. Here is a sampling of what Sherri and her staff helped to get done this past month:

Potholes

- Nautilus Street and West Muirlands Drive intersection
- Avenida Chamnez and Via Espana intersection
- Lebon Drive from La Jolla Village Drive to Palmilla Drive

Streetlights and traffic signals

- Delayed traffic signal timing fixed at two freeway on-ramps at Genesee Avenue and I-5
- Streetlight fixed on Honors Court
- Streetlight fixed at the northern end of Del Mar Scenic Parkway
- Flickering streetlight fixed at Kearsarge Road and Soledad Avenue
- Faulty streetlight fixed at Scripps Street and Scripps Way
- New streetlights connected and fixed on Buisson Street
- Streetlights fixed along Angell Avenue

Landscaping and weed abatement

- Weeds and overgrown trees cut back at the pedestrian bridge over Torrey Pines Road near La Jolla Shores Drive
- Bushes cut back and weeds cleaned up at pedestrian bridge over Genesee Avenue near La Jolla Village Drive
- Ice plant trimmed back along the bluff at Neptune Place beginning at Westbourne Street

Sidewalk and curb repairs

- Faded red curb repainted on Chelsea Avenue south of Camino de la Costa
- Broken sidewalk fixed at 7030 Neptune Place
- Hole in sidewalk fixed in front of 7320 Draper Avenue

If you need repairs in your neighborhood, call Sherri's office. Her staff is here to help.

Water Bill Headaches

In July, the City changed its water billing service. The transition has been bumpy. If you have any problems with your water bill, please call Janie Hoover in Sherri's office at (619) 236-6611.

Council District One Offering Fire and Emergency Preparedness Forums to Community

Sherri joined Fire-Rescue Chief Javier Mainar, Assistant Police Chief Boyd Long, and community leaders to discuss fire preparedness in Rancho Peñasquitos on Oct. 8. The meeting focused on ways residents could help prepare for and prevent wildfires.

These events are a great way to prepare for emergencies and get to know your local first responders and public safety professionals.

If you would like to organize a fire or emergency preparedness forum for your community organization or neighborhood, please contact Sherri's office at (619) 236-6611.

Sherri also will be providing weekly fire prevention tips on her [website](#) and via email updates throughout the month of November. Please check these out!



Sherri with Fire Chief Javier Mainar at the Rancho Peñasquitos Fire Preparedness Forum.

Recognizing Great Leaders, Organizations and Events in October



Above: Sherri with members of the "Holy Cows" FIRST Robotics team at the "Battle of the Border" event on Oct. 15. As an engineer, Sherri believes STEM (science, technology, engineering & math) education is a critical part of developing our local economy.

Below: Sherri joined Councilmember Todd Gloria and Jimmy Jackson, BIOCOT's vice president of public policy and communications, at BIOCOT's reception for legislators on Oct. 19.



Right: Sherri joined Mayor Sanders and her Council colleagues Tony Young and Lorie Zapf to announce that City workers had won the managed competition bid for fleet services, which will save the City around \$4 million annually over the next five years.



Sherri helped kick off the [Challenged Athletes Foundation's](#) San Diego Triathlon on Oct. 23. Congratulations to Bob Babbitt (pictured here) and the Foundation for raising more than \$1.2 million for this great cause.



Left: Sherri helped commemorate the 13th Anniversary of the La Jolla Open Aire Market on Oct. 23 with organizers Donna Scurio and Sherry Ahern along with Principal Donna Tripi and students from La Jolla Elementary School.

Below: Sherri attended Move San Diego's 2nd Annual Green Streets Celebration and helped recognize Council President Tony Young, who received the "Walk the Talk" award. Former District 1 Councilmember Harry Mathis (center) was also honored for his civic leadership.



Right: Sherri visited with parents and students from the After School Learning Tree, a multi-cultural academy in Sorrento Valley, on Oct. 15.



Building Bicycle Connections in University City

Good news for bicyclists — we're moving forward with plans for a bicycle connection between Sorrento Valley and the Rose Canyon Bike Path in University City.

The City Council voted in October to use more than \$500,000 in federal funds to begin work on the Coastal Rail Trail through this area. The Coastal Rail Trail will be a 40-mile bike trail stretching from Oceanside to San Diego.

The next step is a public input process to determine the best route for the segment of the trail that starts in Sorrento Valley and continues through University City.

Currently, bicyclists arriving at the Sorrento Valley Coaster Station have to ride along the shoulder of the I-5 freeway to get to UCSD or jobs in the Golden Triangle, which can be extremely dangerous.

To find the best possible route, we need everyone to provide their input.

Please get involved in the process so we can pick a route that is convenient, cost-effective and sensitive to the environment.

Stay tuned for more information about how to get involved, and contact my office at (619) 236-6611 if you have any questions.

Did you know?

As of July, California homeowners are required to install a carbon monoxide detector if they have an attached garage or any fossil-fuel burning appliance such as a stove or a fireplace.

The new law was put in place to help prevent an estimated 40 deaths a year from carbon monoxide poisoning in California. Right now the rule only applies to single-family homes, but all residences will have to comply by Jan. 1, 2013.

You can find carbon monoxide detectors for around \$20 at any home improvement store. Be wary of scam letters that offer detectors for much higher prices.

Your Community Representatives

If you have a concern or question about an issue in your neighborhood, please contact our constituent services representative or your community representative. We're here to help!

Torrey Hills / Constituent Services (street repairs, water leaks, traffic issues, code compliance, etc.)

Janie Hoover jmhoover@sandiego.gov (619) 236-6611

La Jolla

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